

2 DECEMBER 1946

I N D E X
Of
WITNESSES

<u>Prosecution's Witnesses</u>	<u>Page</u>
Blackburn, Arthur Seaforth, Brigadier, Australian Imperial Forces (resumed)	11536
Direct by Mr. Justice Mansfield (cont'd)	11536
Cross by Mr. Blewett	11565
" " Mr. Logan	11596
" " Mr. Brooks	11609

I N D E X
Of
EXHIBITS
(none)

1 Monday, 2 December, 1946

2 - - -

3
4 INTERNATIONAL MILITARY TRIBUNAL
5 FOR THE FAR EAST
6 Court House of the Tribunal
7 War Ministry Building
8 Tokyo, Japan

9 The Tribunal met, pursuant to adjournment,
10 at 0930.

11 - - -

12 Appearances:

13 For the Tribunal, same as before; HONORABLE
14 R. B. PAL, Member from India, now sitting.

15 For the Prosecution Section, same as before.

16 For the Defense Section, same as before.

17 The Accused:

18 All present except OKAWA, Shumei, who is
19 represented by his counsel.

20 - - -

21 (English to Japanese and Japanese
22 to English interpretation was made by the
23 Language Section, IMTFE.)
24
25

BLACKBURN

DIRECT

1 MARSHAL OF THE COURT: The International
2 Military Tribunal for the Far East is now in session.

3 THE PRESIDENT: Mr. Justice Mansfield.

4 - - - -

5 A R T H U R S E A F O R T H B L A C K B U R N ,
6 called as a witness on behalf of the prosecution,
7 resumed the stand and testified as follows:

8 DIRECT EXAMINATION

9 BY MR. JUSTICE MANSFIELD (Continued):

10 Q Witness, on Friday you had got to the
11 point where you told the Tribunal you were being
12 taken to the guardhouse in Cycle Camp. Will you
13 continue from there, please?

14 A On my way to the guardhouse I shouted out
15 an order to the men that they were to sign the form.
16 The men were then herded into their huts and were
17 made to sign the form, the order being enforced with
18 beatings up with rifle butts and heavy sticks. Late
19 that afternoon Colonel Searles and I were taken out
20 of the guardhouse, were shown the signatures of all
21 the other men in the camp, and we then signed our-
22 selves. For about a month after that there was an
23 orgy of savage beatings up and assaults indiscriminate-
24 ly on all officers and men throughout the camp. I
25 lodged very frequent protests against these beatings

BLACKBURN

DIRECT

1 up and against the other breaches of international
2 custom that was taking place, but never received
3 any satisfaction.

4 Q Did you subsequently leave Java?

5 A I left Java on the 28th of December of 1942.

6 Q Did you subsequently conduct an investiga-
7 tion into the forcing of prisoners of war to take
8 part in a propaganda moving picture?

9 MR. LOGAN: I object to that question,
10 your Honor, on the ground that it is leading.

11 THE PRESIDENT: There is another way of
12 putting it, Mr. Justice Mansfield, if you care to
13 do it that way.

14 Q Did you at any time conduct any investiga-
15 tion and, if so, what in relation to the Cycle Camp
16 in Java?

17 A Yes, about the middle of 1943 certain
18 officers who had been under me in Cycle Camp in
19 Batavia joined up with me when I was in Formosa. As
20 a result of what they told me I personally inter-
21 viewed some ten or fifteen officers and men who
22 informed me that they had been forced to take part in
23 the manufacture of a propaganda film in Cycle Camp.
24 Subsequently, upon my return to Australia after the
25 war, I was ordered to conduct an inquiry into the

BLACKBURN

DIRECT

1 making of this propaganda film and interviewed some
2 twenty to thirty officers, non-commissioned officers
3 and men who had been forced to take part in the
4 manufacture of the film. From them I ascertained
5 that the Japanese had selected the healthiest looking
6 men in the camp and had ordered them to take part in
7 a film purporting to depict prisoner of war life.
8 Every single one of them refused to take part in
9 the film and were then subjected to extreme brutal-
10 ities and punishments and were finally threatened
11 with death unless they took part in the film. They
12 still refused to take part and were then informed
13 that unless they did so the food ration for every
14 prisoner of war in Java would be reduced progressive-
15 ly week by week until they did take part. Only then
16 did they give way and agree to take part in the film.
17 The whole prison camp was raked over to get the clean-
18 est and best looking clothes that could be got from
19 anyone in the camp and these men were fitted out in
20 the best clothes that could be got out of the whole
21 camp. They were then taken away and made to take
22 part in the manufacture of this film which gives an
23 utterly untrue picture of camp life.

24 Q And that picture has been subsequently
25 cut and edited under your direction, is that so?

BLACKBURN

DIRECT

1 A The film was, I understand, captured by
2 the Allies when they went into Java and I saw it
3 in Australia in approximately December of 1945.
4 At a conference held in Melbourne it was then de-
5 cided that as many of the actors in the film as were
6 then alive and could be got should be gathered to-
7 gether and should, side by side with the Japanese
8 portion of the film, should give the true version
9 of what was really taking place. Certain photographs
10 and shots which had been taken by Allied cameramen
11 in Java after the capitulation when the conditions
12 of the camps had been considerably improved were
13 available and they were embodied in the picture
14 which was made in Australia to be a contrast to the
15 picture made by the Japanese and so as to show the
16 actual conditions, and the whole lot was then embodied
17 into one composite film.

18 Q What were the conditions under which you
19 left Java, your means of transport, and so forth?

20 A I left Java on the 28th of December, 1942,
21 in company with a number of senior British and Dutch
22 officers and included in the party was the Governor-
23 General of the Netherlands East Indies and Colonel
24 Searles, the senior American officer. We were put
25 aboard a very old dirty ship of about 5,000 tons

BLACKBURN

DIRECT

1 and were marched down a very steep ladder down into
2 one of the lower holds. A shelf had been built
3 between the floor of the hold and the deck above,
4 a shelf about seven feet wide. We were made to
5 crawl in between the floor and the shelf, or the
6 shelf and the deck above, as the case might be for
7 each prisoner, and ordered to lie down. There were
8 no lights, there were no portholes, there was no
9 ventilation except through the open hatch two or
10 three decks above us. There was not room for prisoners
11 to lie side by side. We had to lie alternately, one
12 with his head into the side of the ship and the
13 other with his head into the hold in order to get
14 room for us all to get in there. The heat was
15 absolutely intense. There were no washing facilities,
16 no bathing facilities, and the only latrines were up
17 on the top deck. There was only one step ladder
18 leading up to the top deck and at the foot of this
19 an armed sentry was posted to allow only one of us at
20 a time to go up to the latrine, and this was rigidly
21 enforced however much one desired to go up to the
22 latrine. The food consisted of very thin soup and
23 a small quantity of rice. We were occasionally
24 allowed up on deck for about a quarter of an hour
25 per day for exercise.

BLACKBURN

DIRECT

1 We arrived at Singapore about the 5th of January
2 and left Singapore about the 10th of January for
3 Japan.

4 Q How many prisoners were in that party?

5 A About sixty.

6 Q Yes.

7 A We traveled to Japan on a much bigger ship,
8 the "Ake Maru," of about 10,000 tons, but conditions
9 were identical as far as our accommodation went as
10 on the previous ship, except that as we came further
11 north the days became shorter and we were usually
12 for twelve to thirteen hours per day battened down
13 in the holds in absolute pitch darkness. We were
14 landed at Moji in Japan for a few days and then put
15 aboard another transport and taken to Formosa.

16 We reached Formosa about the 30th of January,
17 1943. The conditions on the third transport were
18 practically identical except that we were very much
19 more crowded and many of the prisoners had to sleep
20 on the open hatchway with the rain beating down on
21 them. On none of those transports was there any
22 medical arrangements whatever and we were unable to
23 obtain any medical assistance or treatment for the
24 sick except what could be provided by our own medical
25 men with such drugs as they happened to have with them.

BLACKBURN

DIRECT

1 I reached Karenko Camp in Formosa on the
2 evening of the first of February, 1943, still with
3 the same party and we were all lined up immediately
4 and addressed by the camp commandant. He informed us
5 that we were regarded as criminals for having fought
6 against Japan, that it was only by the kindness of
7 the Japanese Government that we were permitted to
8 be alive and that our lives in the future would de-
9 pend upon our behavior. He then read out a form
10 which he said we must all sign which was to the
11 effect that we promised on our honor that we would
12 obey every order of the Japanese and would never
13 make any attempt to escape. I was called out to his
14 table and ordered to sign the form. I told him that
15 it was against my honor to sign any such form as
16 it was my duty to attempt to escape if I could,
17 and I asked him what penalty he proposed to apply
18 to me if I refused to sign. He shouted out at me
19 to sign at once. I said that I would sign when he
20 chose to answer my question. He then aimed a blow
21 at me with his fist which I succeeded in dodging and
22 called up a squad of sentries and I was led off to
23 the guardroom. I was there ordered to empty my
24 pockets and take off all my clothes. I started to
25 do so, the Japanese sentries assisted me by ripping

BLACKBURN

DIRECT

1 them off, and just when I had nearly completed
2 doing so a Japanese officer came into the guardroom.
3 He gave an order and two sentries immediately placed
4 themselves, one on each side of me. He then stepped
5 up to me and struck me very violently and repeatedly
6 over the jaw. He finally drove me into a corner of
7 the guardhouse where I tripped over some boxes and
8 fell onto the ground. While lying on the ground he
9 kicked me and then turned and walked away and the
10 guards thereupon pulled me to my feet again.

11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25

BLACKBURN

DIRECT

G
o
l
d
b
e
r
g
&
S
p
r
a
t
t

1 They then ripped off the rest of my clothes,
2 took me along to a small cell about twelve feet by six
3 and put me in it. The cell was absolutely bare except
4 for a concrete slab in the center of it to act as
5 a latrine. I was suffering from a very bad cold at
6 the time, and the cold in February Karenko is very
7 intense. I was coughing almost incessantly, and in
8 about an hour's time was shivering very violently.
9 An armed sentry had been posted outside the entrance
10 to the cell, and in about an hour's time he came along
11 and threw me in my trousers. I found that every
12 button on them had been hacked off. For about six
13 hours I was made alternately at intervals of about
14 an hour either to stand at attention or sit down to
15 attention. When I first went in there, I had asked
16 for a drink of water; but this had been refused.
17 After about six hours I fell asleep and woke up at
18 half past six in the morning. I again asked for
19 a drink of water and some food, but this was refused
20 again. About an hour later a Japanese officer with
21 the official interpreter came into my cell and asked
22 me if I would sign the form. I said that I would do
23 so only under protest; and I again asked him for a
24 drink of water and some food. About eleven o'clock
25 that morning he came back again and again asked me

1 if I would sign the form. On my again saying I would
2 sign it only under protest, he informed me that I
3 must stay there without food or sleep or water;
4 but, actually, about an hour later, a sentry handed
5 in to me a small mug of cold water and, shortly
6 afterwards, a handful of cooked rice. I remained
7 in the cell all day, at hourly intervals being made
8 to stand up at attention or sit at attention. All
9 this time I was coughing very badly, and by the
10 evening was beginning to feel very feverish. About
11 nine o'clock that night I was allowed to lie down
12 and go to sleep. Next morning, soon after I woke up,
13 my clothes were thrown into the cell and I was told
14 that I would be taken out to sign the form. I found
15 that every button off every garment that I possessed
16 had been hacked off. I put on my clothes, and some-
17 time later, was taken by a Japanese officer to the
18 guard room, and the form was put in front of me to
19 sign. I stated that I would sign it only under
20 protest and under duress, and that signature was
21 then accepted. I was then taken to my quarters,
22 which consisted of a long room in which there were
23 twenty-eight other prisoners of war. The room was
24 just long enough to take fourteen beds each side; the
25 beds practically touched.

BLACKBURN

DIRECT

1 I found that in this camp were the Gover-
2 nors of Hongkong, the Malay States, Guam, some
3 chief justices, General Percival, General Wain-
4 wright, in fact, all British, American, and Dutch
5 officers of the rank of colonel and upwards who
6 at that time had been taken prisoners. Also, in
7 the camp, were some Red Cross representatives who
8 were treated as ordinary prisoners. The discipline
9 in this camp was extremely harsh, and all officers
10 and sentries showed at all times to us the greatest
11 hostility. Beatings-up were practically a daily
12 occurrence. I have seen the Governor of Hongkong,
13 the Governor of Guam, General Wainwright, General
14 Percival, General Sir Louis Heath, and countless
15 other senior officers beaten up by ordinary Japanese
16 sentries for -- either for no visible offense or for
17 an offense so trivial that it was almost impossible
18 to detect. It was almost impossible to avoid being
19 beaten up in that constant new rules were made,
20 breaches of which were used as a pretext for beating
21 up prisoners. As an illustration we suddenly dis-
22 covered, through being stopped all over the grounds
23 and having our fingernails inspected, that it was
24 an offense to have any dirt under one's fingernails;
25 and everyone who did was immediately beaten up by

BLACKBURN

DIRECT

1 the guards. I, myself, saw General Percival severely
2 beaten up on the allegation that he had a speck of
3 dirt under one of his fingernails.

4 Another excuse used was we suddenly found
5 there was a rule that it was an offense to have any
6 button on one's clothing undone; and after dark at
7 night the sentries suddenly invaded our rooms and
8 inspected everyone to find whether they had any button --
9 pocket button or any other button undone; and everyone
10 who was found with a button undone was immediately
11 beaten up.

12 THE PRESIDENT: What did this beating up
13 consist of? We do not know.

14 THE WITNESS: Beatings-up consisted or
15 varied, shall I say, from severe punches on the
16 jaw to kicks, to hits with rifle butts, or hits
17 with heavy sticks.

18 THE PRESIDENT: What was done to General
19 Percival?

20 THE WITNESS: He was punched very severely
21 on the jaw and on the side of the face, causing an
22 abrasion and a breaking of the skin just below the
23 ear. Almost invariably a beating-up was severe
24 enough to leave some mark, either in the form of a
25 bruise, cut lip, or a breaking of the skin. Every

BLACKBURN

DIRECT

1 Japanese soldier or civilian in the camp had to be
2 saluted by every prisoner of war of whatever rank.

3 THE PRESIDENT: Who beat General Percival?

4 THE WITNESS: A private soldier sentry,
5 whose name I do not know.

6 THE PRESIDENT: Were any Japanese officers
7 present?

8 THE WITNESS: So far as I know, none were
9 present; but the officer of the day was in the next
10 room and heard the row. I was at the door of the next
11 room and I know. I moved to the window of General
12 Percival's room and saw it, but the Japanese officer
13 of the day took no notice.

14 It was particularly the custom in the camp
15 for sentries at night to hide in the bushes and
16 behind obstructions on the passageway that led from
17 the sleeping quarters to the latrines. If you passed
18 any of those sentries without stopping and saluting
19 and bowing, you were immediately beaten up, quite
20 regardless of the fact that it was quite impossible
21 to see them in the dark. I, myself, have been beaten
22 up three times between leaving my bed to go to the
23 latrine and getting back into bed again. Another
24 penalty inflicted, particularly at night, at the
25 latrines was to make an officer stand outside the

BLACKBURN

DIRECT

1 latrines with a bucketful of water and hold it out
2 at full arm's length for ten or fifteen minutes.
3 Almost invariably whilst doing this one would be
4 unable to withhold the call of nature, and the
5 Japanese would then call others up to stand and look
6 and laugh at one in that position.

7 THE PRESIDENT: Was that done to any
8 governor, chief justice, or general?

9 THE WITNESS: I am unable to say. It was
10 done once to me. It was done, to my knowledge, to
11 a number of American colonels and a number of British
12 colonels. General Sir Louis Heath, who has a slightly
13 withered left arm through a war injury and is unable
14 to keep his left arm straight down to his side, was
15 very severely beaten up by a sentry for not having
16 his hand rigidly to his side.

17 THE PRESIDENT: Were any complaints made to
18 Japanese officers in charge?

19 THE WITNESS: Very frequent written and
20 verbal complaints were put in to the Japanese Camp
21 Commandant at the treatment of the officers in the
22 camp.
23

24 THE PRESIDENT: What was the rank of that
25 officer in charge of the camp?

THE WITNESS: Captain IMAMURA.

BLACKBURN

DIRECT

1 A (Continuing): With one exception, the
2 only result of these complaints was an immediate
3 epidemic of extreme brutality throughout the camp.
4 So much was this so that the senior American, British
5 and Dutch officers in the camp instituted a system of
6 letting us all know as soon as they were putting in
7 a complaint so that we could try to get on our best
8 behavior. The one exception that I referred to was
9 following the assault I had just mentioned on General
10 Sir Louis Heath. Following that complaint he was taken
11 by the officer of the day over to the Japanese guard-
12 house where the sergeant of the guard was sitting in
13 a chair. He was made to stand in front of the ser-
14 geant at attention, and the sergeant spoke to him in
15 Japanese. The officer of the day then said to him,
16 "You have now received an apology," and he was taken
17 back to his quarters. The assault on General Heath
18 had been so severe that it had ruptured some blood
19 vessels in his eye, and for a little while it was
20 feared he was going to lose his sight.

21 The Governor of Guam was stopped by a
22 sentry and, without giving any reason whatsoever,
23 was violently assaulted, injuring his eye.

24 THE PRESIDENT: Was General Wainwright
25 assaulted?

BLACKBURN

DIRECT

1 THE WITNESS: General Wainwright told me
2 that he had been assaulted, but that was not one
3 of those that I personally saw.

4 THE PRESIDENT: What did he tell you?

5 THE WITNESS: I did see, sir, a severe
6 bruise on his jaw, which I imagine could not have
7 come from any other way except as a result of the
8 assault.

9 BY MR. JUSTICE MANSFIELD (Continued):

10 Q What was the work that the officers were
11 made to perform at that camp?

12 A All officers were made to work clearing
13 scrub land for farm and digging in heavy clay soil.
14 The oldest amongst the officers, about the oldest
15 twelve of them, were made to work herding goats.

16 THE PRESIDENT: Who were the goatherds, in
17 fact?

18 THE WITNESS: General Wainwright -- do you
19 mean the officers?

20 THE PRESIDENT: Yes.

21 THE WITNESS: General Wainwright, General
22 Percival, General Heath, the Governor of Hongkong,
23 the Governor of Singapore, the Governor of the Malay
24 States, three American colonels who were over the
25 age of sixty, and two British colonels who were over

BLACKBURN

DIRECT

1 the age of sixty. I think that was the goatherd
2 team, sir. I might mention sir, that this goatherd
3 business was not as funny as it seemed to us at first
4 at the time in that if any goat escaped and got into
5 any forbidden portion of the camp, such as close to
6 the guardroom or in any of the Japanese vegetable
7 compounds, the goatherds were immediately beaten up
8 for having allowed it to do so.

9 BY MR. JUSTICE MANSFIELD (Continued):

10 Q Was any clothing ever issued to you?

11 A No clothing whatever was issued to us in
12 that camp.

13 Q What was the food position?

14 A The food was very inadequate. I think every
15 officer in that camp lost weight steadily and was
16 always hungry. I have, myself, seen officers picking
17 over the garbage tin at night before it was removed
18 to see if they could find anything more edible in
19 it.

20 Q Were you allowed to purchase any extra
21 food outside the camp?

22 A There was a strict prohibition against us
23 purchasing any extra foodstuffs except salt and very
24 occasionally some sauce; and these really were not
25 purchased; they were issued to us occasionally by

BLACKBURN

DIRECT

1 the Japanese, and we were debited with a certain
2 amount of cost for them.

3 Q In April, 1943, were you moved anywhere?

4 A In April, 1943, all officers of the rank
5 of brigadier and upwards and all the civilian
6 governors, et cetera, in the camp were moved to
7 Tamasata Camp. We were told that we were to be
8 moved so that we would have more room, and to make
9 more room in Karenko Camp for those remaining.
10 In Tamasata Camp the food was considerably worse
11 than in Karenko; but, otherwise, the conditions were
12 an improvement. In June we were suddenly informed
13 one day that a representative of the Red Cross --
14 International Red Cross -- was to visit the camp and
15 inspect it. He passed through the camp, looked at
16 the accommodation, and was permitted to talk to some
17 six or seven officers in a small enclosure outside the
18 camp and in the presence of the Japanese. He left the
19 camp at about one o'clock, and half-past one we were
20 lined up and informed that we would be moved next day
21 back to Karenko. All the officers in Tamasata Camp
22 except the senior officer group, Generals Wainwright,
23 Percival, et cetera, were taken back to Karenko Camp
24 and were then after a few days moved together with
25 all other prisoners at Karenko Camp to Shirakawa Camp.

BLACKBURN

DIRECT

1 THE PRESIDENT: We will recess for fifteen
2 minutes.

3 (Whereupon, at 1045, a recess was
4 taken until 1100, after which the proceed-
5 ings were resumed as follows:)
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25

BLACKBURN

DIRECT

M
o
r
s
o
&
D
u
d
a

1 MARSHAL OF THE COURT: The International
2 Military Tribunal for the Far East is now resumed.

3 THE PRESIDENT: Mr. Justice Mansfield.

4 BY MR. JUSTICE MANSFIELD (Continued):

5 Q Were there any senior Dutch officers with
6 you in these camps you have mentioned?

7 A For a portion of the time General terPoorten,
8 the Allied Commander in Chief of the Netherlands East
9 Indies, was with me. For the whole of the time some
10 six Dutch generals, including General Schilling, and a
11 number of Dutch colonels were with me.

12 Q You had started to describe the camp at
13 Shirikawa.

14 A For a portion of the way, journey to
15 Shirikawa, we were loaded into open trucks and at every
16 village level crossing or station through which we
17 passed the civilian population, including all the
18 school children, were lined up to watch us go through.
19 The train was then slowed up and we proceeded slowly
20 past the civil population amidst laughs and jeers.

21 The conditions generally at Shirikawa con-
22 tinued as at Karenko, including the beatings up.
23 General Key was very severely beaten up, knocked down,
24 and kicked because he put a written complaint in to
25 the camp commandant about a breach of the customs of

BLACKBURN

DIRECT

1 war.

2 THE PRESIDENT: What nationality was he? What
3 nationality?

4 THE WITNESS: British.

5 THE PRESIDENT: What was the treatment of
6 the Dutch officers like?

7 THE WITNESS: The treatment of the Dutch officers
8 was exactly the same as the brutal treatment of we
9 British and Americans.

10 THE PRESIDENT: Did you witness any beatings
11 of them?

12 THE WITNESS: I personally witnessed the beat-
13 ings up of some of their colonels. Owing to the fact
14 that my quarters were in a slightly different part
15 of the camp to the Dutch generals , I personally did
16 not see their generals beaten up, with the single
17 exception of General Cox whom I saw beaten over the
18 legs with a rifle butt because it was said his feet
19 were not close enough together when he was supposed to
20 be standing at attention. This was done by a private
21 Japanese soldier with the Officer of the Day standing
22 about five yards away watching it.

23 BY MR. JUSTICE MANSFIELD (Continued):

24 Q Did you hear of any beatings of the senior
25 Dutch officers?

BLACKBURN

DIRECT

1 A Yes, I was told fairly frequently, as often
2 as I was told of beatings up of our officers, that
3 they also had been beaten up.

4 Q What was the sanitation in this camp like?

5 A The sanitation in Shirikawa Camp was particu-
6 larly bad. The latrines began to overflow within
7 about a month of us getting into the camp, and then
8 overflowed into open drains which led right across
9 the camp alongside our sleeping quarters and about
10 five yards from the kitchen. We made frequent com-
11 plaints about this and, as a result, in October of 1943,
12 the American and British colonels were compelled by
13 the Japanese to empty the latrines with open buckets.
14 The work continued in this camp but, as the climate
15 was considerably hotter, it was very much more diffi-
16 cult to perform. In, I think, May of 1944 Brigadier
17 General McBride of the United States Army was found
18 dead in his bed at reveille in the morning. He had
19 been working alongside of me under a very hot sun the
20 whole of the previous day and had complained to the
21 Japanese officer in charge that he was feeling unwell.
22 He was not allowed to stop work, was unwell when he
23 got back to camp, and was found dead next morning.

24 In June of 1944 a Red Cross representative
25 visited the camp and was interviewed by certain

BLACKBURN

DIRECT

1 selected -- officers selected by the Japanese who
2 were forbidden to mention to him the subject of work.
3 In spite of this prohibition, one of them informed
4 the Red Cross representative that we were being com-
5 pelled to do work which we felt was beyond our
6 strength and from then on discipline throughout the
7 camp became very much more severe. Officers were
8 frequently placed in solitary confinement in the
9 cells for trivial offenses and without trial. In
10 fact, on no occasion that I personally know of did
11 any officer receive any trial for any offense.

BLACKBURN

DIRECT

1 selected -- officers selected by the Japanese who
2 were forbidden to mention to him the subject of work.
3 In spite of this prohibition, one of them informed
4 the Red Cross representative that we were being com-
5 pelled to do work which we felt was beyond our
6 strength and from then on discipline throughout the
7 camp became very much more severe. Officers were
8 frequently placed in solitary confinement in the
9 cells for trivial offenses and without trial. In
10 fact, on no occasion that I personally know of did
11 any officer receive any trial for any offense.

BLACKBURN

DIRECT

1 prisoners at that time?

2 A With progressive lack of food and lack of
3 vitamins, all the prisoners in the camp were becoming
4 alarmingly thin and in poor health.

5 Q Did the same apply to the Japanese officers
6 and guards?

7 A Very definitely not.

8 Q Well, then, in October 1944, did you leave
9 Shirikawa?

10 A Yes. I would like to mention that immediately
11 after the interview with the Red Cross representative
12 fresh rules were made, one result of which was a very
13 large increase of malaria throughout all the prisoners
14 in the camp, in that a rule was issued the result of
15 which was to make it an offense for us to get under
16 our mosquito nets before nine o'clock at night.

17 In October of 1944 we left for Manchuria, and
18 in May of 1945 were brought into the main prisoner of
19 war camp in Mukden. This camp consisted of two-story
20 barracks built on a bit of very low-lying ground on the
21 outskirts of Mukden. There were already about twelve
22 hundred prisoners of war in the camp when we arrived
23 who had been there since 1943, working in the factories
24 in Mukden.
25

Each building or each floor of each building

BLACKBURN

DIRECT

1 selected -- officers selected by the Japanese who
2 were forbidden to mention to him the subject of work.
3 In spite of this prohibition, one of them informed
4 the Red Cross representative that we were being com-
5 pelled to do work which we felt was beyond our
6 strength and from then on discipline throughout the
7 camp became very much more severe. Officers were
8 frequently placed in solitary confinement in the
9 cells for trivial offenses and without trial. In
10 fact, on no occasion that I personally know of did
11 any officer receive any trial for any offense.

BLACKBURN

DIRECT

1 THE PRESIDENT: Did any Japanese high
2 officers pay any visit to the camp?

3 THE WITNESS: On a number of occasions we
4 were inspected by the colonel -- Colonel SUZAWA, I
5 think his name was, your Honor -- the colonel in
6 charge of administration, and on at least two occasions
7 representatives from the camp were permitted to put
8 their troubles before him. No alleviation of any of
9 our conditions followed.

10 On occasions Japanese generals, and, on one
11 occasion, we understood the Governor of Taiwan visited
12 the camp, but we were not allowed to speak to them or
13 get close enough to speak to them.

14 THE PRESIDENT: Those visitors spoke only to
15 the Japanese; is that so?

16 THE WITNESS: That is so.

17 Q What was the position as to food in that camp?

18 A The food was still the same, inadequate food
19 of insufficient quantities of rice and thin vegetable
20 soup. And just after the complaint to the Red Cross
21 representative in June 1944, even the low, then,
22 standard of rice ration was officially reduced by the
23 Japanese. It was reduced to, I think, 375 grams per
24 person per day in all.

25 Q What was the physical condition of the

BLACKBURN

DIRECT

1 prisoners at that time?

2 A With progressive lack of food and lack of
3 vitamins, all the prisoners in the camp were becoming
4 alarmingly thin and in poor health.

5 Q Did the same apply to the Japanese officers
6 and guards?

7 A Very definitely not.

8 Q Well, then, in October 1944, did you leave
9 Shirikawa?

10 A Yes. I would like to mention that immediately
11 after the interview with the Red Cross representative
12 fresh rules were made, one result of which was a very
13 large increase of malaria throughout all the prisoners
14 in the camp, in that a rule was issued the result of
15 which was to make it an offense for us to get under
16 our mosquito nets before nine o'clock at night.

17 In October of 1944 we left for Manchuria, and
18 in May of 1945 were brought into the main prisoner of
19 war camp in Mukden. This camp consisted of two-story
20 barracks built on a bit of very low-lying ground on the
21 outskirts of Mukden. There were already about twelve
22 hundred prisoners of war in the camp when we arrived
23 who had been there since 1943, working in the factories
24 in Mukden.
25

Each building or each floor of each building

BLACKBURN

DIRECT

1 had a wooden shelf dividing the floor from the ceiling,
2 leaving about a maximum of five feet of space
3 between floor and shelf or shelf and roof, as the case
4 may be. Buildings were very crowded, both floor and
5 shelves being fully occupied by prisoners as their
6 sleeping quarters. The buildings were very dirty and
7 were very badly infested with lice and fleas.

8 Food was getting rapidly and progressively
9 shorter in its issue, although on my rail journey down
10 to Mukden I had seen, at every railroad siding we passed
11 through, very large quantities of food, grain, soya
12 beans, and other food piled up on the stations. And,
13 subsequently, when the war ended and we got out of the
14 camp, we had not the slightest difficulty in obtaining
15 every sort and quantities of food, eggs, fresh
16 vegetables, meat, that we desired without any difficulty
17 whatever in the district.

18 Discipline in this camp was very severe,
19 particularly on the enlisted men who were in the camp.
20 The officers were subjected to extreme indignities and
21 annoyances, and on occasions were assaulted as in other
22 camps.

23 On the end of hostilities we released from
24 the cells a man who had been in there for 150 days
25 without any charge or trial being brought against him.

BLACKPURN

DIRECT

1 Another man was released whose face was very badly
2 bruised and who had most of his teeth missing, who
3 informed me that 'e had been beaten up at least twice
4 a day for the last ten days that he had been in there
5 although he had not been brought before the camp
6 commandant or awarded any sentence for anything.

7 Two days after the end of hostilities I visited
8 the prisoner of war cemetery about two miles away from
9 the camp and counted over three hundred graves, mostly
10 American enlisted men, out of a party of approximately
11 1400 who were taken up there in 1943.

BLACKBURN

DIRECT

A
b
r
a
m
&
E
d
e
r

1 Q Was there much sickness in that camp?

2 A Yes. Sickness, particularly for the last
3 four or five months, became extremely bad, and it
4 would be correct to say that for the last three
5 months in Manchuria sick ~~parades~~ more than doubled.
6 For example -- this was due to the -- partly to the
7 fact that latrines, as usual, were in a constant
8 state of overflow. Flies were very bad there and
9 dysentery became terribly rife throughout the whole
10 camp. This was made still worse by the shortage of
11 food in the last three months, as a result of which
12 practically everyone in the camp was becoming alarm-
13 ingly thin and weak.

14 Q Were there sufficient medical supplies for
15 the treatment of the sick?

16 A For the last six months in Mukden Camp
17 there were fairly ample supplies of most drugs, but no
18 supplies of drugs to deal with the greatest danger,
19 dysentery. I wish to correct that. When I arrived
20 in Mukden Camp there was sufficient emetine left to
21 treat four cases. There were some thirty odd cases
22 in the hospital and they were recurring all the time.
23 The doctors had the difficulty of allotting the re-
24 maining four doses amongst the patients.

25 Q Were you subsequently released when the

BLACKBURN

DIRECT

1 Russian forces entered Mukden?

2 THE PRESIDENT: You told us the duties
3 assigned to the older generals. What about the
4 other officers?

5 THE WITNESS: All the other officers in the
6 camp, including the generals, sir, were engaged upon
7 heavy manual work, clearing scrubs, digging in heavy
8 wet clay soil -- similar tasks to that, sir.

9 THE PRESIDENT: Were they assigned to any
10 particularly disagreeable duties?

11 THE WITNESS: Not particularly disagreeable,
12 sir, other than -- that is, the generals other than
13 the English and American colonels, who were made to
14 empty the latrines, carted out of the camp.

15 THE PRESIDENT: Was that a regular practice?

16 THE WITNESS: No, sir. It happened only
17 in October of 1944, when we were making almost daily
18 protests about the bad sanitation in the camp. We
19 practically ceased making protests on that subject
20 after the results of the protests in October, 1944.

21 THE PRESIDENT: The result being that the
22 colonels had to do the latrine duty?

23 THE WITNESS: Yes, sir, and I would like to
24 explain, sir, that that duty consisted in getting
25 the contents of the latrine out by hand in an empty

BLACKBURN

DIRECT - CROSS

1 bucket and then walking out in view of the civil
2 population and depositing it outside.

3 THE PRESIDENT: How many colonels were in-
4 volved?

5 THE WITNESS: Sixty, sir.

6 THE PRESIDENT: Mr. Blewett.

7 MR. BLEWETT: If the Court, please.

8 CROSS-EXAMINATION

9 BY MR. BLEWETT:

10 Q Is it permissible, Brigadier, for you to
11 tell us the number of troops you commanded in Java
12 before the capture?

13 A Approximately 3,000, including some 500
14 Americans who were placed under my command and some
15 few hundred English.

16 Q Do you know how many troops of all Allied
17 nations were captured at that time or shortly
18 thereafter?

19 A I do not know that.

20 Q Were there any terms of surrender such as
21 occurred at Singapore?

22 A Yes. I attended on the 12th of March before
23 the Japanese Commander-in-Chief, in company with the
24 British senior officer and Colonel Searle, the senior
25

BLACKBURN

CROSS

1 American officer, and signed a surrender document of
2 our forces, but I don't know the surrender terms of
3 the Commander-in-Chief.

4 Q Well, then, you wouldn't know, Brigadier,
5 whether there were any provisions with regard to
6 prisoners of war in that surrender term?

7 A I know that there was an express provision
8 in regard to prisoners of war in the terms of sur-
9 render that I signed. At our request, after a long
10 argument, the Japanese Commander-in-Chief added ex-
11 press words that the prisoners of war would be sub-
12 ject to our rights under the Geneva Convention of
13 1929.

14 Q I take it, Brigadier, that you were the senior
15 officer at that time on Java, is that correct?

16 A No, I was the senior Australian officer,
17 and the American troops had been placed under my
18 command during the fighting.
19
20
21
22
23
24
25

BLACKBURN

CROSS

1 Q Well, then, you signed the surrender terms
2 in so far as the island of Java was concerned. Is
3 that right?

4 A In so far as the Australian troops in
5 Java were concerned. Colonel Searle signed it in
6 so far as the American troops in Java were con-
7 cerned.

8 Q But I think you stated you did not know the
9 number of other Allied troops in Java. Do you have
10 any idea of about the approximate number, Brigadier?

11 A I would say, and this is very approximate,
12 that apart from Dutch troops there were about eight
13 or nine thousand other Allied troops, but they
14 consisted, except for the Australians and Americans,
15 mainly of ground staffs of the air force, and base
16 troops, clerks, and things of that sort.

17 Q Were there, in addition to troops, a certain
18 number of civilians and other persons that were
19 either interned or imprisoned after the surrender?

20 THE PRESIDENT: That is the point of all
21 this, Mr. Blewett? Do you suggest that the Japanese
22 got too many prisoners to handle properly?

23 MR. BLEWETT: That was the general idea,
24 sir.

25 THE WITNESS: There were, I assume, a large

BLACKBURN

CROSS

1 number of Dutch civilian internees, but I can give
2 no idea as to whether there were British, American
3 or Dutch, with one exception of an American
4 national that had been connected with airplane manu-
5 facture, and whom I, in conjunction with Colonel
6 Searle, hurriedly put into uniform and passed as a
7 soldier to prevent him from falling into the hands
8 of the Japanese as an airplane expert.

9 C On what date did the first landings of
10 Japanese troops take place on Java?

11 A During the night of the 28th of February,
12 1st of March.

13 C Am I correct, Brigadier, that war was de-
14 clared by the Netherlands against Japan on December
15 8, 1941?

16 A I don't know that. I was in the Middle
17 East then.

18 C What was your general treatment, Brigadier,
19 between March 12 and April 13, 1942?

20 A We were left entirely to our own resources
21 in the area in which we had surrendered. We were
22 liable entirely for the feeding of our troops, and
23 saw no Japanese except around the perimeter of some
24 miles retaining us in.

25 C Were you, therefore, in camp with your own

BLACKBURN

CROSS

1 equipment and supplies, Brigadier?

2 A During that period we were scattered out
3 through some tea plantations in the south of
4 Bandoeng where we had been last taking up position
5 when the hostilities ceased.

6 C Well, then, what developed, if I may ask
7 you, between the 12th and the 13th, when you left
8 Java?

9 THE MONITOR: Mr. Blewett, will you re-
10 frame the question? What do you mean by 12th and
11 13th? Twelfth March to 13th April? The 13th April
12 was the date when you left Java. Is that right?

13 MR. BLEWETT: Yes, that is right.

14 THE WITNESS: Do you mean between the 12th
15 of March and 28th of December, when I left Java?

16 MR. BLEWETT: No, I am mistaken, sir. I
17 should have said Batavia.

18 A From the 12th of March until the date I
19 arrived in Batavia. I was left in charge of the
20 whole of the troops I had commanded when hostilities
21 ceased, subject only to a rule that I would -- and
22 other officers -- would be strictly accountable for
23 discipline, and that if any man was found outside a
24 certain named area bounded by certain roads they
25 would be shot on sight. We were made solely

BLACKBURN

CROSS

1 responsible for feeding our troops and received no
2 rations from the Japanese, and were ordered to bring
3 to certain named points all our weapons of war.

4 Q During that period did Japanese officers
5 inform you that the principles of the Geneva Con-
6 vention would apply only to prisoners of war when
7 expedient?

8 A Not at all during that period.

9 Q On what other occasions were you so informed,
10 Brigadier, and by whom?

11 A On a very large number of occasions through-
12 out my period of imprisonment, by various Japanese
13 officers of various ranks, and more particularly by
14 Lieutenant SONIE, Captain INNINURI, Captain HIOKE,
15 and a lieutenant whose name I do not know up in
16 Manchuria. I remember also Colonel SHUSAWA, I think
17 his name was, addressed the whole of the prisoners
18 in Shirikawa Camp, and informed us of the same thing
19 in reply to a request which we had put in to be able
20 to interview our protecting powers.

21 THE PRESIDENT: We will adjourn now until
22 half past one

23 (Whereupon, at 1200, a recess
24 was taken.)
25

- - -

BLACKBURN

CROSS

AFTERNOON SESSION

The Tribunal met, pursuant to recess, at 1330.

MARSHAL OF THE COURT: The International Military Tribunal for the Far East is now resumed.

THE PRESIDENT: Mr. Blewett.

MR. BLEWETT: Thank you, sir.

- - - -

ARTHUR SEAFORTH BLACKBURN, called as a witness on behalf of the prosecution, resumed the stand and testified as follows:

CROSS-EXAMINATION

BY MR. BLEWETT (Continued):

Q Of what did your quarters consist as commander of the POW camp in Batavia?

A Dutch barracks built for native troops that consisted of a number of single-storied buildings with wooden floors, and which had verandas on every building.

Q How many Americans were confined in the Cycle Camp, Brigadier, if you can tell us?

A Originally about 400 and then approximately 200 survivors from the Houston.

Q Was Colonel Searles in command of the

BLACKBURN

CROSS

1 American troops, sir?

2 A Colonel Tharp was the commander of the
3 American unit, but Colonel Searles was the senior
4 American officer. He was an American staff officer.

5 Q Were the men housed as to nationality, or
6 were they mixed up pretty much?

7 A When I arrived they were mixed up, but with
8 the assistance of Colonel Searles we sorted them
9 out into nationalities,

10 Q How many barracks were there, Brigadier?

11 A My recollection is about ten buildings
12 in all.

13 Q So, according to your description that would
14 be about 100 men to a barrack, is that right?

15 A Considerably more than that. The lowest
16 number was 2600 in the camp. The highest was 4900.

17 Q I think there were 2600 Allied prisoners
18 there when you reached the camp, is that true?

19 A That is correct.

20 Q Now, those men, I assume, had been placed
21 there between a state of surrender on March 12 and
22 the date on which you reached there, the 13th of
23 April, is that correct?

24 A No, they had all been brought down from the
25 vicinity of central Java within a few days, say, a

BLACKBURN

CROSS

1 week of the 13th of April, upon which day I was
2 brought down with the last party.

3 Q What officers lived with the men, Brigadier?

4 A The system I organized was that one or two
5 officers should live in a small room at the end of
6 each barrack so as to try to help the men. The
7 rest of the officers lived in a building at one end
8 of the camp.

9 Q What system was in operation as to
10 registration of prisoners of war?

11 A I do not know what the Japanese system
12 was, but the day after I got into the camp I was
13 instructed to prepare and hand in a nominal roll of
14 the name, rank, nationality of every prisoner in the
15 camp.

16 Q Did that give the location of each man as
17 to the barracks in which he resided?

18 A No, at first I was told to lodge with the
19 Japanese a hut register, showing the name of the
20 occupants in every hut. For the convenience of the
21 prisoners I sought and obtained subsequently per-
22 mission to move men from hut to another on the under-
23 taking that I would be able at any moment to inform
24 the Japanese in what hut any given man was housed.

25 Q Were there beds in the huts, Brigadier?

BLACKBURN

CROSS

1 A No.

2 Q What was the sleeping arrangement?

3 A Originally all on the floor, but gradually
4 as time went on the men constructed -- many of the
5 men constructed rough stretchers out of bits of
6 bamboo and sacking, et cetera.

7 Q I assume the barracks were in the same
8 condition as they had been when taken over by the
9 Japanese.

10 A I have no knowledge on that.

11 Q I think you testified, Brigadier, that they
12 had formerly been used by native troops, is that
13 correct?

14 A That is correct.

15 Q Well, within the short period of time is it
16 correct to assume that they were no doubt in the same
17 condition as they had been when they were taken over
18 by the Japanese?

19 A Yes, I assume that.

20 Q Would you say that the men were extremely
21 crowded as to sleeping quarters?

22 A Yes, extremely crowded. All the verandas
23 had to be used although rain frequently came in on the
24 verandas.

25 Q Were there any other suitable arrangements

BLACKBURN

CROSS

1 nearby or in any other locality that you knew about?

2 A Within 400 yards of the camp was another
3 much more substantially built barracks and much
4 bigger barracks which at least for some months after
5 I arrived there was practically unoccupied.

6 Q What response did you get when you suggested
7 that this other building be utilized?

8 A No response except the one word, "no."

9 Q Do you know whether or not the Japanese
10 had materials available for extra buildings?

11 A I have no information.

12 Q I think you testified, Brigadier, that
13 during your stay there that no effort was made to
14 provide extra buildings or outhouses or kitchens.
15 Now, it occurred to me that perhaps you no doubt would
16 suggest that your men, if given the equipment and the
17 tools, would be delighted to provide these facilities?

18 A That is one thing I had in mind but the
19 other easier thing would have been to make empty
20 buildings in the near vicinity available to us. For
21 example, immediately outside our barbed wire and
22 enclosed behind a high wall was a big two-storied
23 building which to my knowledge was empty at least
24 until October of 1942.

25 Q What disposition was made of the Allied

BLACKBURN

CROSS

1 stores before the surrender, if any?

2 A They were, wherever possible, destroyed
3 and immediately after the surrender as many as
4 possible of us destroyed every possible weapon of
5 war that we could.

6 Q I presume the men kept their bed rolls,
7 or whatever you term it in your army, and side
8 equipment and tools and so on, is that so?

9 A Bedding and blankets only. All side arms
10 and tools were taken from us, and even in the case
11 of the American troops, the whole of their kitchen
12 equipment, cooking dishes, et cetera, were taken from
13 them.

14 Q Were they permitted their extra shoes and
15 other clothing?

16 A In that camp at the beginning no clothing
17 or shoes were taken from them, but some of the pris-
18 oners had very little clothing and practically no
19 spare footwear; and when any began to wear out we
20 were informed by the Japanese that we would have to
21 use the spare clothes and boots of men that had spares
22 to replace those of men whose clothing and boots had
23 worn out.

24 Q Is it correct, Brigadier, that the survivors
25 of the Perth and Houston were troops, army troops?

BLACKBURN

CROSS

1 A They were entirely naval men or marines,
2 naval marines, and as most of them had been in the
3 water and had swum ashore, in the main they had arrived
4 ashore practically naked.

5 Q I was just going to ask you that, Brigadier.
6 I assume, therefore, that that is the reason they
7 arrived at Camp Cycle without clothes and equipment?

8 A Yes, that is so. Their clothes had not
9 been taken away from them but none had been issued
10 to them to cover their nakedness.

11 Q I was quite sure that is what you meant, sir.

12 A Yes, I did.

13 Q Can you tell us whether or not the Japanese
14 had uniforms and shoes that would have fit these
15 men?

16 A I was informed that they had taken possession
17 of a large quantity of Dutch clothing and uniforms
18 in some of their stores.

19 Q I was thinking about the fit especially in
20 regard to some of our marines.

21 A It is quite true that as far as most of
22 our troops went the Japanese had no clothing of
23 their own or boots of their own that would have fitted
24 us.

25 Q From where had these survivors traveled to

BLACKBURN

CROSS

1 reach Cycle Camp, Brigadier?

2 A From the coast of west Java. The Perth
3 and Houston were sunk in Sunda Strait, which is
4 between Java and Sumatra.

5 Q What I was thinking of was whether or not
6 there were facilities en route to treat these men
7 properly from a medical viewpoint?

8 A They had been detained for over three weeks
9 in a native jail in a large Dutch town further west
10 than Batavia. I think its name was Serang.

11 Q Did you set up the hospital at Cycle
12 or had it been already established when you reached
13 there?

14 A I set it up by assigning one hut as a
15 hospital hut and putting into it doctors and orderlies.
16 It in no other way resembled a hospital. It had no
17 beds and no water within 50 yards of it.

18 Q What kind of a staff did you have to help
19 you there, Brigadier -- medical staff?

20 A We had the medical officers from the
21 American artillery battalion, from two of my infantry
22 battalions and, from memory, I think one other medical
23 officer and two survivors from the medical staff of the
24 Houston came in with them and on recovering their
25 health went into the hospital to assist.

BLACKBURN

CROSS

1 Q Were these men deterred in any way by the
2 Japanese from carrying out their professional work?

3 A They were not deterred in the sense of being
4 prevented but frequently things they desired to do
5 were overridden by order of the Japanese. May I
6 explain that throughout my whole experience the
7 Japanese method was to put a corporal whom they
8 called the medical corporal in charge of the hospital
9 and who was absolutely supreme above all our doctors.

10 Q That is what you had in mind specifically,
11 was it, Brigadier, about not being permitted
12 to do what they desired to do?

13 A That, of course, and the serious deficiencies
14 of medicine and equipment.

15 Q Now, when you asked for blankets, clothing,
16 towels and soap, was that available at that time?

17 A The towels, soap were certainly available
18 in Batavia in very large quantities. The blankets
19 and the clothing I believe to have been available
20 from captured stores.

21 Q To whom did you make this application?

22 A The Japanese camp commandant.

23 Q I think you told us his name, Brigadier,
24 but would you let me have it again, please? I am
25 not quite certain.

BLACKBURN

CROSS

1 A The commandants changed from time to time.
2 I think at that time it was Lieutenant YATAMOTO,
3 I think was the name.

4 Q Do you know whether he has been charged
5 with any crime by a war tribunal?

6 A I do not know.

7 THE PRESIDENT: The prosecution will give
8 you those particulars if you need them, I am sure,
9 Mr. Blewett, to save cross-examining witnesses who
10 know nothing about them.

11 MR. BLEWETT: I will keep that in mind, sir.

12 Q What was the reason for the refusal, if
13 one was given to you, sir?

14 A No reason was given.

15 Q I don't suppose you felt like pressing for
16 one?

17 A I pressed for one and pleaded for over two
18 hours, but got no satisfaction except that nothing
19 would be done and I must do the best I could myself.
20
21
22
23
24
25

BLACKBURN

CROSS

Goldberg & Spratt

1 Q From your experience and knowledge of that
2 region what was the food situation generally in
3 Batavia at that time?

4 A At that time, from my knowledge, there was
5 an abundance of food in Batavia.

6 Q What is the population of Batavia?

7 A Other than the fact it is a very large
8 population, I don't know.

9 Q Well, would you say, or have you heard,
10 Brigadier, that it is more populated than Japan?

11 MR. JUSTICE MANSFIELD: I object, if the
12 Tribunal please, as I submit the answer to that
13 question will not assist the Tribunal and is irrel-
14 evant.

15 THE PRESIDENT: We know those matters,
16 Mr. Blewett. We know what the populations of these
17 parts are.

18 MR. BLEWETT: I understand, sir.

19 Q What sources, if you know, did the Japanese
20 have to depend upon for their supply of food and
21 medical supplies?

22 A So far as medical supplies go, I know of
23 my own knowledge that there were very, very large
24 supplies of practically all drugs available in
25 Batavia at that time. So far as food goes, I can

BLACKBURN

CROSS

1 only say that I believe there were large quantities
2 of food available, and I assume the Japanese could
3 do what an occupying force usually does, and commandeer
4 a portion of that, except that from my knowledge of
5 them, I would not expect them to commandeer it in
6 the same way as our forces would do it. I might
7 add that in the early stages, Dutch civilians and
8 natives made very frequent efforts to throw food
9 of all sorts, rice and all other sorts of food,
10 over the wire to us, but were prevented from doing
11 so.

12 Q Well, I think perhaps you told us, but
13 how was the food situation at Cycle Camp?

14 A The food was generally very inadequate.
15 All prisoners lost weight rapidly; and the food
16 was less in many cases by over fifty per cent than
17 the Japanese approved scale for prisoners of war.

18 Q Were the guards at Cycle Camp Japanese or
19 otherwise?

20 A Nearly all Japanese, with a very few Koreans.

21 Q In what manner were the beatings and bru-
22 talities brought to your attention? I am speaking
23 now only of Cycle Camp, Brigadier.

24 A I saw a tremendous lot of them because
25 Colonel Searles and I used to make it a practice

1 to spend practically all our time going around
2 the camp to try and help the men as much as we
3 could in difficulties; and then there was a standing
4 order that every beating-up was to be reported to
5 us immediately so that we could endeavor to do
6 something to ease the position.

6 Q What was the cause assigned usually?

7 A It was very rare for a sentry to try to
8 assign a cause, but in fairness, they could only
9 talk Japanese and we could not understand them. So
10 there was not much good trying to assign a cause.
11 The only cause I could ever get from the Camp
12 Commandant was that the person beaten up had
13 angered a sentry. I could never get at any stage
14 an investigation or trial into any case.

15 Q From your protests, did you at no time
16 receive any response from a Japanese officer?

17 A Yes, I was beaten up myself one day for
18 no reason that I could see, and was made by the
19 Japanese sentry to walk naked throughout the camp
20 to the kitchen, five hundred yards away, and collect
21 food and feed it to two men in the cells.
22

23 THE PRESIDENT: How were you beaten?

24 THE WITNESS: With fists and with a rifle
25 butt.

BLACKBURN

CROSS

1 A (Continuing): I, at the time, had come
2 back from the bath with only a towel around me,
3 and when the towel fell off, I was kicked for
4 letting it fall off. On protesting to the Japanese
5 Camp Commandant about an hour later, he, himself,
6 expressed his regret and said that he would take
7 some action over the matter against the sentries
8 concerned; and I assumed he did so. That is the
9 only occasion upon which any of the hundreds, almost,
10 of protests that Colonel Searles and I made met with
11 any response.

12 Q I can appreciate, Brigadier, the purpose
13 of this form that you describe and your attitude
14 towards it, but what was the real purpose, specifically,
15 of the Japanese?

16 MR. JUSTICE MANSFIELD: I object.

17 THE PRESIDENT: They could not speak
18 English, and he could not speak Japanese. He said
19 that. He would not know their purpose unless they
20 could tell him and did tell him.

21 MR. BLEWETT: I recall, sir, that, I believe,
22 the Brigadier testified in direct examination that
23 an interpreter was brought when they discussed this
24 question of form.

25 THE PRESIDENT: Well, ask him if he knows.

BLACKBURN

CROSS

1 It will be interesting; perhaps useful.

2 A I was never told the purpose. I was merely
3 told that that was the customary method of Japanese
4 discipline to prisoners.

5 Q Do you recall the name of the officer from
6 Headquarters with whom you conferred?

7 A No, I could never ascertain his name.

8 Q I believe that was the time, sir, that
9 you said that with the addition of those words
10 which you spoke and quoted then, that you would
11 be willing to sign the card?

12 A Yes, that is so.

13 Q Now could it have been that the Japanese
14 wanted to save the number of guards by having these
15 cards signed?

16 A No. They were large sheets of paper with
17 these words already written across the top and a
18 space for signatures below. I have one of them now.

19 Q What I meant, sir, is if they had your word,
20 would they have, therefore, been permitted to reduce
21 the number of guards?

22 A I don't consider so because after they were
23 signed, there wasn't the slightest reduction in the
24 number of guards.

25 Q Were you at Cycle Camp the whole time until

BLACKBURN

CROSS

1 December 28th?

2 A Yes.

3 Q Now what did the men do there in the line
4 of work, if anything?

5 A Road work, repairing war damage, various
6 loading and unloading on the dock, sorting out
7 of captured material, et cetera.

8 Q Were the officers compelled to work?

9 A At first they were compelled to work, but
10 the Japanese complained that not enough work was
11 being done. I, therefore, managed to bluff them
12 that we would get more work if the officers were
13 put only in charge of the men instead of working.
14 In fact, the result was that immediately less was
15 done as the officers managed to switch the men from --
16 or prevent the men from working hard if the work
17 had any relation to the war effort.

18 Q How were the hours and conditions of work?

19 A In Batavia, whilst I was there, neither the
20 hours nor the work were unduly severe.

21 Q Now these pledges, Brigadier, were signed,
22 as you say, under duress, is that right?

23 A Yes.

24 Q Now, as a result of that signing, did life
25 become more bearable for you gentlemen in the camp?

BLACKBURN

CROSS

1 A For the first month, it was very decidedly
2 more unbearable. There was a complete orgy of
3 beatings-up throughout the camp, and certain of
4 our recreational advantages, such as concerts,
5 lectures, were immediately stopped. The right to
6 give educational lectures was never restored. Con-
7 certs from then on were limited strictly to one a
8 week; and our conditions were in no way better than
9 they had been before we signed. I think, in fairness,
10 I should add that I informed the Japanese Camp
11 Commandant the day after they were signed, that every
12 man in the camp had signed under protest and duress.

13 Q Were these concerts and entertainment,
14 Brigadier, supplied by outsiders or by your own forces?

15 A Entirely by our own forces.

16 Q Did yourself and other general officers have
17 freedom and could you go to Batavia or make other
18 trips outside the camp?

19 A Generally speaking, no. On two occasions
20 Colonel Searles and I were permitted to or were taken
21 up to Batavia to try and deal with the medical sup-
22 plies when conditions of health in the camp were
23 getting drastic. On each occasion we succeeded in
24 obtaining from a Dutch chemical manufacturing firm
25 large supplies of drugs without payment.

BLACKBURN

CROSS

1 Q After that month, pursuant to the signing
2 of the cards or the pledge, I think you said that
3 conditions grew better?

4 A They gradually grew better than they had
5 been during the month, but no better than they had
6 been prior to the signing of the form.

7 Q What was done about that film that was made
8 up after you left in 1943, do you know, Brigadier?

9 A All I know of it is that it was captured
10 by the Allied troops who went into Java, and the
11 last I heard of it, it was in Australia. Perhaps
12 I should say the last I know of my own knowledge
13 of it. I had heard it is up here, but I don't know
14 that positively.

15 Q Do you know from your investigation whether
16 it was ever shown to the International Red Cross
17 or any other party?

18 A I have no information whatever that it ever
19 was.

20 Q Was it made for home consumption, or what
21 was the purpose, if you know?

22 A I do not know.

23 Q Was any reason assigned to you as to your
24 removal from Java in December, 1942?

25 A General SAITO informed us that an ideal

BLACKBURN

CROSS

1 prisoner of war camp had been established in the
2 best surroundings that could be found to which all
3 senior officers who had been taken prisoner were
4 to be taken.

5 THE PRESIDENT: Mr. Blewett, your cross-
6 examination suggests to us that you have not been
7 instructed by any Japanese who knows anything about
8 what happened in Java; and that you are putting
9 questions more or less at random with unfavorable
10 results in most cases. It is for you to say what
11 is in the best interests of the defense, but it does
12 not appear to us that that class of cross-examination
13 is in their interests; but we appreciate your position.

14 MR. BLEWETT: I think, sir, that the
15 witness very fairly filled in some of the gaps and
16 was very fair in stating exactly how the treatment
17 was accorded him by the Japanese, particularly with
18 the physical situation as contrasted with some of
19 the other camps he told us about.

20 Q Do you know whether or not, Brigadier,
21 the camp was continued after you left?

22 A It was continued right through the war, and
23 there was still a number of prisoners in it when
24 the war ended.

25 Q Was there any reason that you knew why the

BLACKBURN

CROSS

1 general officers should be removed from Java to
2 the Japanese homeland?

3 A I knew of no reason, but from the fact
4 that when we got there we found all American,
5 British, Dutch and Australian generals gathered
6 together in one camp, that the reason was to get
7 them all together in one place instead of having
8 them scattered.

9 Q What was the purpose, if you know, of
10 confining the officers to quarters on board ship?

11 A I do not know.

12 Q Could it have been through the fear of
13 detection?

14 A I do not think so.

15 Q After the seven-day trip to Singapore on
16 January -- reaching there on January 5th, how were
17 you treated during that period of time?

18 THE PRESIDENT: We will assume that the
19 treatment was within the convention unless he says
20 otherwise, Mr. Blewett.

21 Q How long did the trip last, Brigadier, from
22 Singapore to Formosa?

23 A From memory, we left Singapore on the 10th
24 of January; arrived at Moji, I think about the 20th
25 of January; left there, I think, about the 26th of

BLACKBURN

CROSS

1 January, and reached Formosa on the 30th of January.
2 Those are from memory.

3 Q Was that first camp, Brigadier, Karenko?

4 A Karenko. K-a-r-e-r-k-o, on the east coast
5 of Formosa.

6 Q Sorry, sir, I didn't get the spelling.
7 The translation was going on at the same time.

8 A K-a-r-e-r-k-o.

9 THE PRESIDENT: We will recess for fifteen
10 minutes.

11 (Whereupon, at 1445, a recess was
12 taken until 1500, after which the proceedings
13 were resumed as follows:)
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25

BLACKBURN

CROSS

D
u
d
c
&
M
o
r
s
e

1 MARSHAL OF THE COURT: The International
2 Military Tribunal for the Far East is now resumed.

3 THE PRESIDENT: Mr. Blewett.

4 MR. BLEWETT: Yes, sir.

5 BY MR. BLEWETT (Continued):

6 Q Brigadier, where was the Karenko Camp located?

7 A On the east coast of Formosa.

8 Q Was that near a town or village or was it
9 isolated?

10 A Karenko is the name of the town.

11 Q Of what did the camp consist?

12 A Substantially built two-storied barracks.

13 Q Were they constructed as a POW camp or other-
14 wise?

15 A No, they were well established and good,
16 solid buildings which we understood had been estab-
17 lished some years before by some foreign charitable
18 organization as a school of some sort, but I am not
19 certain of that.

20 Q Were they modern in any respects?

21 A On our standards, no. I mean by that they
22 were not an all Japanese standard of building.

23 Q Well, how were your quarters there? At
24 least, how were you situated, the various prisoners?

25 A There were a few small rooms in which two

BLACKBURN

CROSS:

1 officers each were placed. The rest of us were all
2 in big rooms holding about twenty-eight per room.

3 Q Did you have beds and equipment?

4 A Beds were provided in that camp together
5 with a straw-filled mattress and pillow and blankets
6 and an eating bowl.

7 Q Were the guards at that camp Japanese?

8 A So far as I could tell, yes.

9 Q What was your mode of travel to Manchuria?

10 A We traveled from Formosa to Japan by air, that
11 is, the officers of the rank of brigadier and upwards.
12 The colonels traveled by ship from Formosa to Japan.
13 We all then crossed to Southern Korea by ship and from
14 there up to Manchuria by train.

15 Q How did the accommodations contrast with those
16 previously described by you, Brigadier?

17 A In the first camp in which we were in in
18 Manchuria the buildings were very similar to Karenko
19 except that they were extremely dirty. And I have
20 described the accommodation in Mukden Camp.

21 Q What was your position at Mukden, Brigadier?
22 Did you have a position as senior officer?

23 A No, I was merely one of the prisoners at the
24 camp.

25 Q Now, from your experience and your knowledge

BLACKBURN

CROSS

1 from investigation gained subsequent to the war, would
2 you say that the treatment accorded prisoners of war
3 is pretty much up to the commander of the camp and
4 was it not countenanced by the general officers? I
5 mean by the words "not countenanced" there "not
6 approved."

7 A Do you mean by Japanese general officers?

8 Q Yes, sir.

9 A I can only answer that in two ways: on at
10 least three occasions, once in Java, once in Formosa,
11 and once in Manchuria, I was informed by junior
12 Japanese officers that they disapproved of our treat-
13 ment but could do nothing about it because that was
14 the system laid down; and, secondly, we were inspected
15 on several occasions in Batavia and in Formosa by
16 Japanese generals without any alteration or improve-
17 ment in our conditions following the inspection.

18 Q Recalling some experiences, Brigadier, that
19 we had in northern France in October during the First
20 World War, would you say that the number of prisoners --
21 the great number of prisoners -- taken in the short
22 period of time by the Japanese influenced in any way
23 the treatment accorded any particular one? I am
24 speaking, sir, of the British forces in northern France
25 in October of 1918, I think it was.

BLACKBURN

CROSS

1 A Except for the necessary crowding for the
2 first day or two of capture, and the necessary short-
3 age of supplies for the first few days, I am unable
4 to see that that in any way justified the conditions
5 even in view of conditions in France in October, 1918.

6 MR. BLEWETT: Thank you, sir. That finishes
7 my examination, your Honor.
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25

BLACKBURN

CROSS

THE PRESIDENT: Mr. Logan.

CROSS-EXAMINATION (Continued)

BY MR. LOGAN:

Q You are a lawyer, aren't you, Brigadier?

A Yes.

Q Friday you testified that you were informed by certain Japanese officers that the policy of the Japanese Government was to treat prisoners only under their principle of Bushido. What rank were these officers that told you that?

A Captains, lieutenants and colonels, and one general, General SAITO.

Q How many times were you told that?

A A very large number of times. Only once by a general, in an address farewelling us from Java.

Q Was his speech interpreted for you?

A I cannot remember now whether it was interpreted or handed to our senior officer in English, after he had delivered it, to read to us.

Q Who translated it?

A If it was the latter, it was a system that was sometimes adopted of the Japanese addressing us and then himself handing to one of us to read out to the rest, the English translation prepared by he or his subordinates of what he was saying.

BLACKBURN

CROSS

1 Q What was his first name, do you know?

2 A I have a printed document with his name on
3 it which was handed to me, if that will help to
4 identify it. I cannot remember otherwise.

5 Q Do you have the document with you?

6 A Yes.

7 Q Would you mind looking at it to see if his
8 first name appeared on it?

9 A M-i-s-i-t-o-s-h-i, Christian name. SAITO,
10 S-A-I-T-O, Major General.

11 Q When was this speech delivered?

12 A On the 26th or 27th of December, of 1942.

13 Q Now, Brigadier, you testified as to conditions
14 on this boat when you left Java, I believe it was?

15 A Yes.

16 Q Was that a cargo vessel?

17 A It appeared to be a cargo vessel being used
18 as a transport.

19 Q Had it been used to transport Japanese troops?

20 A Yes, there were a large number of Japanese
21 troops on board.

22 Q It was a small vessel, wasn't it -- 5,000 tons?

23 A Yes, very small.

24 Q How many Japanese troops were on it when you
25 sailed?

BLACKBURN

CROSS

1 A Other than the fact it was very crowded with
2 Japanese troops, I cannot say.

3 Q Were their accommodations the same as yours?

4 A The accommodation was the same except that
5 the floor and shelf in their case had grass mats laid
6 out on it.

7 Q And the ship was blacked out at night, in
8 accordance with security regulations; isn't that so,
9 Brigadier?

10 A Yes.

11 Q And no portholes open, in accordance with
12 security regulations?

13 A There were practically no portholes on the
14 vessel. I have never seen one with so few. However,
15 those that were there were, of course, kept closed,
16 for security reasons, presumably.

17 Q The only way to get down to the hold of a
18 cargo vessel is by means of a long ladder, isn't that
19 so?

20 A If it is fitted as a cargo vessel only, yes.

21 Q Japanese soldiers used the same ladder,
22 didn't they?

23 A Yes, for as far as they had to go.

24 Q Now, Brigadier, I don't think you told us
25 about the conditions from October 1944 to May '45, while

BLACKBURN

CROSS

1 you were in Manchuria, have you?

2 A No. Generally speaking, they were the best
3 period that I had whilst I was a prisoner of war.

4 Q Was there any--

5 A Until February of 1945, when the whole of
6 the officers in the camp refused to volunteer for work.

7 Q Were you given good accommodations and good
8 food while you were at this camp, Manchuria?

9 A The accommodation was approximately the same
10 as at Karenko, only very much dirtier. The food was
11 better.

12 Q Did any beatings take place at that camp?

13 A Very few, but there were a few.

14 Q How many men were at that camp -- what was the
15 name of the camp?

16 A I think it was spelled C-h-u-n-g-c-h-e-a-t-e-h,
17 I think. It is about two hundred miles northwest of
18 Mukden.

19 Q Was there any reason, Brigadier, why you didn't
20 tell us about the treatment at this camp in your direct
21 testimony?

22 A None, except that there were no particular
23 incidents there to tell.

24 Q Did you ever see General Percival beaten?

25 A Yes.

BLACKBURN

CROSS

1 Q When?

2 A In Karenko Camp.

3 Q About what month did this occur?

4 A About March of 1943.

5 Q Who beat him?

6 A A Japanese sentry.

7 Q Where did the beating take place?

8 A I didn't catch that question.

9 Q Where did it take place?

10 A In General Percival's room.

11 Q You were in the room at the time?

12 A I was standing at the door of the next room
13 and heard the row and moved to the window.

14 Q Of what did the beating consist?

15 A From my personal observation, severe beatings
16 with the fist across the face.

17 Q How many times was he struck?

18 A I saw him struck, I should say, three or four
19 times with the closed fist.

20 THE PRESIDENT: We do not want any further
21 details, Mr. Logan, unless you question this witness'
22 credibility.
23
24
25

BLACKBURN

CROSS

E
d
e
r
&
A
b
r
a
m

1 Q Did you ever see General Heath struck?

2 A Yes.

3 Q Where was he when he was beaten?

4 A Outside the barrack room on the exercise
5 square.

6 Q Did you ever see General Wainwright beaten?

7 A I didn't see General Wainwright beaten. I
8 saw marks on his face, which I was told were the re-
9 sult of beatings.

10 Q Who told you that?

11 A General Wainwright.

12 Q When did that take place?

13 A Month, do you mean?

14 Q Yes.

15 A Between the first of February, '44 and the
16 end of March of '44.

17 Q Who struck him?

18 A A Japanese sentry.

19 Q Private?

20 A So far as I know.

21 Q Did the officers wear their insignia while
22 they were prisoners of war?

23 A In the camps in which I was we were always
24 allowed to wear our insignia, and in addition all
25 wore on our right breast a bit of cloth issued to

BLACKBURN

CROSS

1 us by the Japanese, on which they had printed our
2 name and rank.

3 THE PRESIDENT: Was General Percival wearing
4 that when he was assaulted?

5 THE WITNESS: Yes. We had to wear it at
6 all times, even when one went down to the latrine
7 in one's pajamas.

8 THE PRESIDENT: And General Heath was
9 wearing it too, I suppose?

10 THE WITNESS: Yes, sir. It was universally
11 worn. One was immediately beaten up if you were
12 ever found without wearing it, so we took particular
13 points to always wear it if we could.

14 THE PRESIDENT: Was it in Japanese writing?

15 THE WITNESS: Yes, only in Japanese writing.

16 BY MR. LOGAN (Continued):

17 Q Would you say, Brigadier, that the cause
18 of these beatings was due to misunderstanding be-
19 tween the prisoners of war and the sentries or guards
20 because of language difficulties?

21 A Well, I don't doubt that applies in some
22 cases. It don't apply in the majority of cases,
23 because the majority of beatings up were made with-
24 out a word being spoken.

25 Q Did you see the majority of beatings that
took place?

BLACKBURN

CROSS

A Would you repeat that, Mr. Logan?

1 THE PRESIDENT: Did you say that General
2 Percival was beaten for having a speck of dirt on
3 his finger nails?

4 A THE WITNESS: Yes.

5 THE PRESIDENT: There is no misunderstanding
6 there.

7 THE WITNESS: Nothing was said at all, sir.
8 His finger nails were inspected and one finger nail
9 was a little bit dirty and he was beaten up for that.
10 BY MR. LOGAN (Continued):

11 Q The question I put was: did you see the
12 majority of beatings that took place? The reason
13 I asked that was because you said in the majority of
14 cases the beatings took place without anything being
15 said.

16 A I had in mind, Mr. Logan, the beatings that
17 I personally saw.

18 C Now, this work that these men were made to
19 do. That gave them physical exercise, didn't it,
20 including the herding of the goats by the older
21 officers?

22 A One of the results of the work was naturally
23 to give physical exercise.

24 Q That is good practice, isn't it, Brigadier?
25

BLACKBURN

CROSS

1 A In that camp there was a large exercise
2 yard and the officers were all men of fifty years or
3 upwards who were accustomed to take exercise whenever
4 they could by walking around the yard and other forms
5 of physical exercise.

6 Q How old was this general who died?

7 A I think he was 57, from memory, but I am
8 not certain of that.

9 Q Do you know from what he died?

10 A Some form of heart failure.

11 Q Brigadier, at any and all of these camps
12 in which you were, did you have any occasion to see
13 and observe Japanese soldiers eating?

14 THE MONITOR: Was it eating or beating?

15 MR. LOGAN: Eating.

16 THE MONITOR: Thank you.

17 A Yes.

18 Q How many times?

19 A I was on three occasions commanded to at-
20 tend at Japanese Headquarters in the camp at their --
21 at meals. The Japanese guardhouse in the Batavia Camp
22 was about 10 yards away from a window of my quarters
23 and at least three meals a day I watched that. At
24 Karenko not more than once or twice. At Shirikawa
25 four or five times. In Mukden Camp not at all, and

BLACKBURN

CROSS

1 in the northern camp once or twice.

2 Q So aside from those instances you don't
3 know; you couldn't compare the food the Japanese
4 soldiers got as compared with yours?

5 A I can in this way, that on a number of
6 occasions I have seen, in some cases assisted to carry,
7 garbage tin outside the Japanese kitchen into our
8 lines to be fed to the pigs.

9 Q How many times did you observe that?

10 A Fifty or sixty, probably.

11 Q Aside from that you have no way of comparing
12 what the Japanese soldiers ate with what the pri-
13 soners of war were given, is that right?

14 A There are other incidents that I could go
15 on saying. A pig, for example, was killed in our
16 camp, a pig that we were informed was our stock; we
17 were debited with the cost of it when it was bought.
18 It weighed 56 pounds dead weight, of which 500
19 prisoners got 26 pounds and 48 guards got 30 pounds.
20
21
22
23
24
25

BLACKBURN

CROSS

1 Q Brigadier, do you have that speech of
2 General SAITO's with you?

3 A No.

4 Q Do you know where we could get a copy of it?

5 A Only one copy was handed out, and having
6 been read by the British officer I don't know whether
7 he was allowed to keep it or whether it was taken
8 back. I mean by that I don't now remember, Mr.
9 Logan.

10 Q Do you know where General SAITO is now?

11 A I don't, Mr. Logan. He was Major General,
12 the chief of the Java prisoners' camp in August the
13 20th, 1942, and was still in that position in
14 December of '42 when I left Java.

15 Q Did he also say in that speech that the
16 principles of the Geneva Convention would be applied
17 only when it suited them, that prisoners of war
18 had no rights whatsoever?

19 A No.

20 Q He just mentioned about the principles of
21 Bushido, is that right?

22 A On that part of the -- that is all he said
23 as to the principles. His speech was a farewell speech
24 to us. The generals --

25 Q Will you tell us briefly what he said?

BLACKBURN

CROSS

1 A He got us together and gave us an afternoon
2 tea party, explained that we were leaving.

3 Q An afternoon tea party?

4 A I am trying to tell you what he said. He
5 gave that to us himself when we left the camp, as
6 a farewell party as we were leaving Java.

7 Q Were you that friendly with him that he gave
8 you an afternoon tea party?

9 A The answer is no, we were ordered to attend
10 at a given room. On arrival at the room there were
11 three cups of tea and some cakes. Each of us in the
12 party were given a cup of tea and two cakes, and as
13 we finished it General SAITO came into the room,
14 explained that we were being removed from Java to a
15 very pleasant camp which was thoroughly fitted up and
16 where we would be treated according to the principles
17 of Bushido and would have a thoroughly good time.
18 The camp to which we were taken was Karenko camp.

19 Q Was he in charge of Karenko camp too?

20 A No.

21 Q Is that all he said?

22 A I think he wished us good-bye. He told us to
23 look after ourselves, to be good, and to obey all
24 orders that were given to us. Generally speaking,
25 Mr. Logan, it was a pleasant speech from General

BLACKBURN

CROSS

1 SAITO to this group of senior officers who were
2 going away.

3 C As a matter of fact, General SAITO had a
4 good reputation, did he not, with respect to his
5 treatment of prisoners of war?

6 A From my experience, yes.

7 C Well now, who was it that told you that
8 the principles of the Geneva Convention would be
9 applied only when it suited them and that prisoners
10 of war had no rights whatsoever?

11 A Lieutenant YATAMOTO, Lieutenant SUZUKI,
12 Lieutenant SONIE, Captain INI INURI, Captain HIOKE.
13 Other officers I'm afraid I can't remember their
14 names.

15 C You, of course, don't know, Brigadier, whether
16 or not they were authorized by higher officers to
17 make such statements, do you?

18 A No.

19 C Could you tell us, Brigadier, about the
20 conditions at this Shirokawa camp in June '43 to
21 October '44?

22 A That particular conditions, Mr. Logan? I
23 described it. Do you want me to go over it again?
24 The general conditions or any particular point?

25 C Well, I didn't think you had described

BLACKBURN

CROSS

1 conditions at that camp. I thought you had just
2 mentioned that you had been there. Perhaps you
3 have described them.

4 Brigadier, with your line of service and
5 experience, isn't it possible that these beatings
6 and conditions that occurred in some of these camps
7 actually happened without being reported to the
8 higher authorities in Tokyo?

9 A I should be very surprised if each indi-
10 vidual beating ever was reported to Tokyo.

11 MR. LOGAN: Thank you.

12 ("Hereupon, Mr. Brooks approached
13 the lectern.")

14 THE PRESIDENT: Will you be long, Captain
15 Brooks?

16 MR. BROOKS: Well, that is hard to say,
17 your Honor. I will be longer than five minutes.
18 About thirty minutes.

19 THE PRESIDENT: Well, this witness will be
20 here tomorrow morning.

21 CROSS-EXAMINATION (Continued)

22 BY MR. BROOKS:

23 Q Brigadier, are you acquainted in any way
24 with the principles of Bushido you referred to as
25 the Japanese policy?

BLACKBURN

CROSS

1 A I am afraid my knowledge of it is very
2 superficial, through reading a very brief book
3 on it once while in prisoner of war camp in
4 Manchuria.

5 C Would you say from your reading that it
6 was an old warriors' code handed down for purposes
7 of outlining certain fair treatment for prisoners?

8 THE PRESIDENT: Before we adjourn I would
9 like to state that the Court has no intention of
10 taking a vacation at Christmas. We will not sit on
11 Christmas day nor on New Year's day. Whether we
12 will sit on the days between remains to be determined.
13 We will adjourn until half past nine.

14 (Whereupon, at 1600, an adjourn-
15 ment was taken until Tuesday, 3 December,
16 1946, at 0930.)
17
18 - - - - -
19
20
21
22
23
24
25